

What is claimed is:

1. A communications exchange, comprising:

a communication interface for sending and receiving messages;

an event container connected to the communication interface, wherein received messages are sent to the event container as events;

a condition container connected to the event container, wherein the condition container contains a plurality of condition instances; and

an action container connected to the condition container, the action container containing a plurality of action instances;

wherein, when a set of events received by the event container matches a predicate of a condition instance, an action, defined in an action instance associated with such condition instance, is performed.

2. The exchange of Claim 1, further comprising:

a timer in the event container, wherein the timer generates events related to time.

5. A communication system, comprising:

a communications exchange; and

a plurality of user communications systems connected to the exchange;

wherein the exchange includes:

a communication interface for sending messages to, and receiving messages from, the user communications systems;

an event container connected to the communication interface, wherein received messages are sent to the event container as events;

a condition container connected to the event container, wherein the condition container contains a plurality of condition instances; and

an action container connected to the condition container, the action container containing a plurality of action instances;

wherein, when a set of events received by the event container matches a predicate of a condition instance, an action, defined in an action instance associated with such condition instance, is performed.

1. The first part of the paper is devoted to the study of the properties of the function $f(x)$ defined by the equation $f(x) = \int_0^x f(t) dt$. It is shown that $f(x)$ is a constant function.

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9. A method for handling messages in a communications system, comprising the steps of:

providing a plurality of conditions and associated events, wherein a condition causes an associated action to be performed when a set of input event conditions is satisfied;

receiving a plurality of messages, each message being treated as an event;

when a subset of events satisfies a condition, performing the associated action.

10. The method of Claim 9, further comprising the steps of:

generating timing events; and

satisfying a condition using at least one timing event combined with an event which is not a timing event.

11. The method of Claim 9, wherein the conditions are interpreted at run time, whereby changes to the conditions can be made while a computer system is executing.

